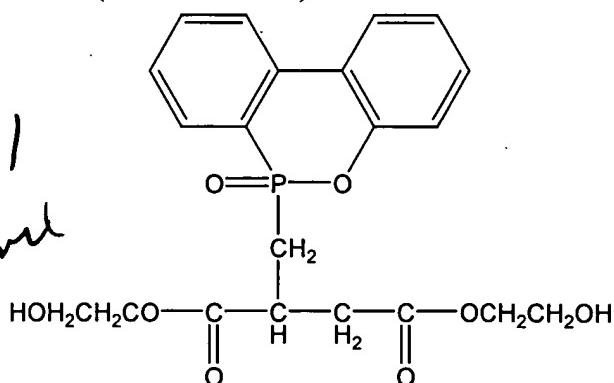


(Formula 84)



IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 2 and 50 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend Claims 1, 3-17, and 19-49 as shown in the attached marked up copy. A clean form of the amended claims is as follows:

1. (Amended) A polyester polymerization catalyst, comprising:
at least one metal-containing component selected from the group consisting of metals and metal compounds, wherein the metal-containing component contains no antimony or germanium; and
C2
an organic compound component,
wherein an activity parameter (AP) of the catalyst fulfills Formula (1) shown below,

$$(1) AP \text{ (min)} < 2T \text{ (min)}$$

where AP is a time (min) required for a polymerization using the catalyst at 275°C under reduced pressure of 0.1 Torr to obtain a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) whose intrinsic viscosity is 0.5 dl/g and T is an AP observed when using antimony trioxide as the catalyst, the added amount of antimony trioxide being 0.05 mol% as antimony atom based on an acid component in the PET, and

wherein the PET polymerized using the catalyst has a thermal stability degree (TD) which fulfills Formula (2) shown below without removing or inactivating said catalyst,

(2) TD (%)<25

where TD is a % reduction in the intrinsic viscosity after keeping 1g of PET, whose initial intrinsic viscosity was 0.6 dl/g, in a glass tube as melt state under a nitrogen atmosphere at 300°C for 2 hours, after drying the PET at 130°C for 12 hours in vacuum.

3. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 1 wherein said organic compound component is at least one compound containing at least one moiety selected from the group consisting of Formula 1 and Formula 2:

(Formula 1)

Ar-O-

(Formula 2)

Ar-N <

wherein Ar represents an aryl group.

4. (Amended) A polyester polymerization catalyst comprising:
at least one metal-containing component selected from the group consisting of metals and metal compounds, wherein said metal-containing component comprises no antimony or germanium; and

an organic compound component, wherein said organic compound component is at least one compound containing at least one moiety selected from the group consisting of Formula 1 and Formula 2:

(Formula 1)

Ar-O-

(Formula 2)

Ar-N <

wherein Ar represents an aryl group.

5. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, and a compound thereof.

6. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 5 wherein said alkali metal or alkali earth metal is at least one selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs, Be, Mg, Ca, Sr and Ba.

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7. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Al, Ga, Tl, Pb, Bi and a compound thereof.

8. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Tl, Pb, Bi and a compound thereof.

9. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Cr, Ni, Mo, Tc, Re and a compound thereof.

10. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Cr, Ni and a compound thereof.

11. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Sc, Y, Zr, Hf, V and a compound thereof.

12. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Sc, Y, Zr, Hf and a compound thereof.

13. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Ru, Rh, Pd, Os, Ir, Pt and a compound thereof.

14. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Ru, Pd and a compound thereof.

C3
15. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ag, Au, Cd, Hg and a compound thereof.

16. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Cu, Ag and a compound thereof.

17. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of lanthanide metals and compounds thereof.

19. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of In and a compound thereof.

20. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Mn, Co, Zn and a compound thereof.

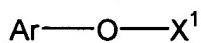
21. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Fe, Nb, Ta, W and a compound thereof.

22. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Fe and a compound thereof.

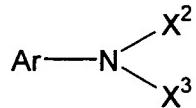
C3
23. (Twice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein said metal-containing component is at least one selected from the group consisting of Si, Te, B and a compound thereof.

24. (Thrice Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 4 wherein each of the compounds containing the moieties represented by Formula 1 and/or Formula 2 is a compound containing the moieties represented by Formula 3 and/or Formula 4:

(Formula 3)



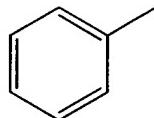
(Formula 4)



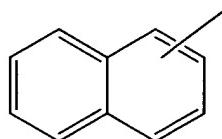
wherein Ar represents an aryl group, each of X¹, X² and X³ independently represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group.

25. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein an Ar in said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is selected from the group consisting of the moieties represented by Formulae 5 to 12:

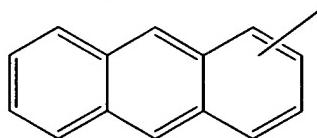
(Formula 5)



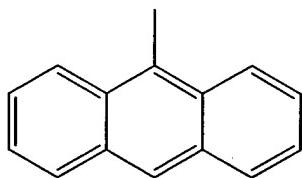
(Formula 6)



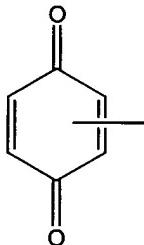
(Formula 7)



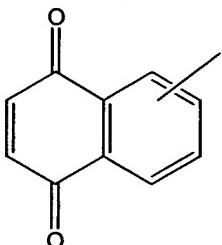
(Formula 8)



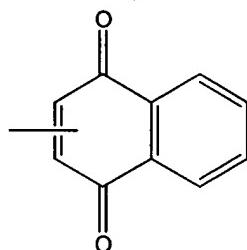
(Formula 9)



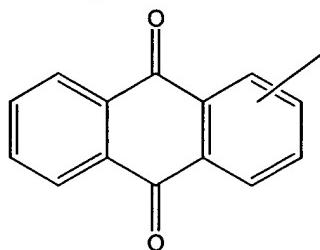
(Formula 10)



(Formula 11)



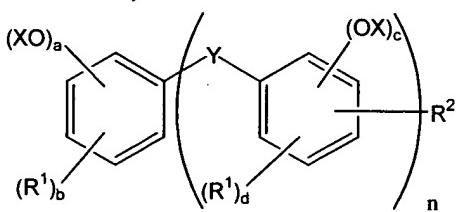
(Formula 12)



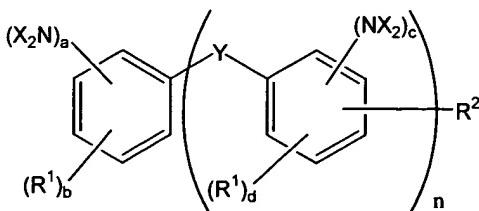
C3

26. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a linear phenol compound and a linear aniline compound represented by Formulae 13 and 14 and derivatives thereof:

(Formula 13)



(Formula 14)



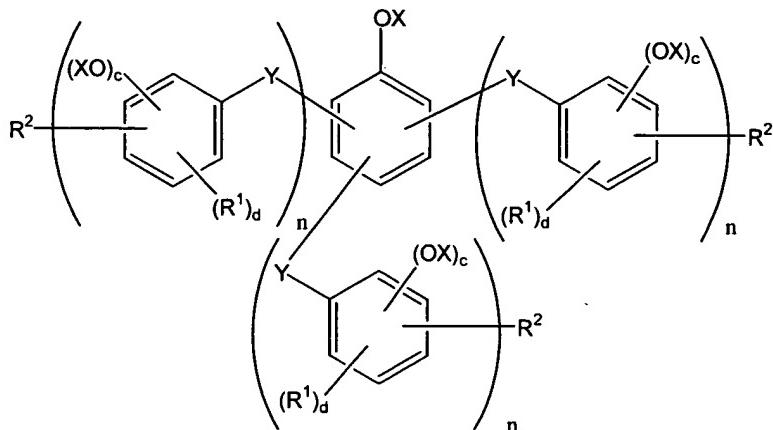
wherein each R¹ is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its

substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each R² is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether [bond-containing] group-containing hydrocarbon group, each Y is the same or different and represents a direct bond, a C₁-C₁₀ alkylene group, -(alkylene)-O-, -(alkylene)-S-, -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -CO- or -COO-, n represents an integer of 1 to 100, each of a and c is an integer of 1 to 3, each of b and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 1 ≤ a+b ≤ 5, 1 ≤ c+d ≤ 4, and each d is the same or different, and derivatives thereof.

C3

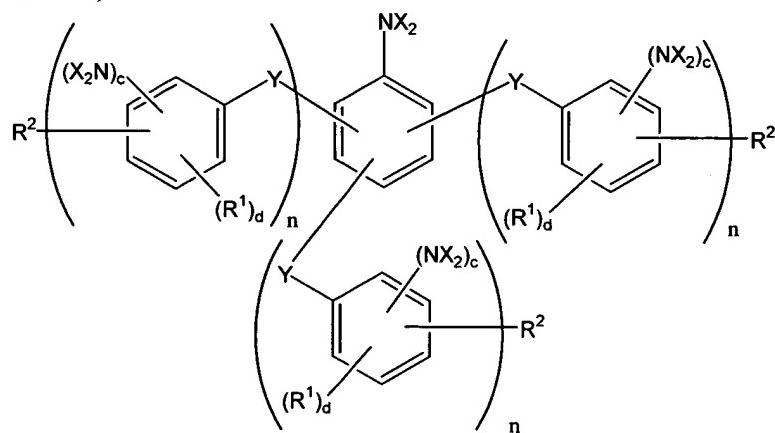
27. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a branched linear phenol compound and a branched linear aniline compound represented by Formulae 15 and 16 and derivatives thereof:

(Formula 15)



C3

(Formula 16)



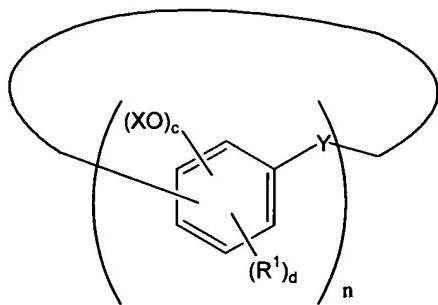
wherein each R^1 is the same or different and represents a $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_{20}$ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_{20}$ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each R^2 is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_{20}$ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_{20}$ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a

cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each Y is the same or different and represents a direct bond, a C₁-C₁₀ alkylene group, -(alkylene)-O-, -(alkylene)S-, -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -CO- or -COO-, each n is the same or different and represents an integer of 1 to 100, each c is the same or different and represents an integer of 1 to 3, each d is the same or different and represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 1 ≤ c+d ≤ 4, and derivatives thereof.

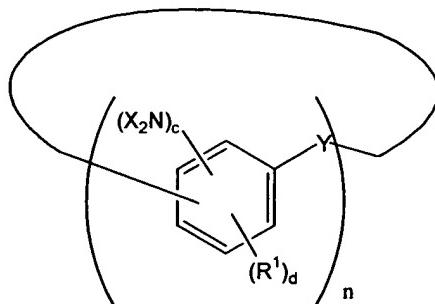
C3
Crt

28. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a cyclic phenol compound and a cyclic aniline compound represented by Formulae 17 and 18 and derivatives thereof:

(Formula 17)



(Formula 18)



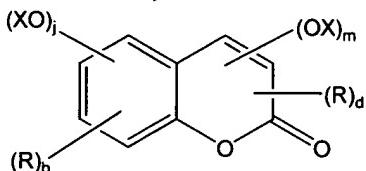
wherein each R¹ is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group,

a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxyl group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each Y is the same or different and represents a direct bond, a C₁-C₁₀ alkylene group, -(alkylene)-O-, -(alkylene)-S-, -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -CO- or -COO-, n represents an integer of 1 to 100, c represents an integer of 1 to 3, d represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 1 ≤ c+d ≤ 4, and each d is the same or different, and derivatives thereof.

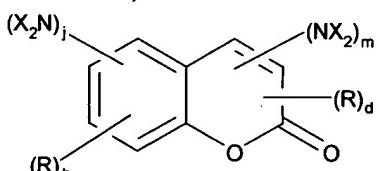
(3)

29. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a coumarine derivative represented by Formulae 19 and 20 and a chromone derivative represented by Formulae 21 and 22:

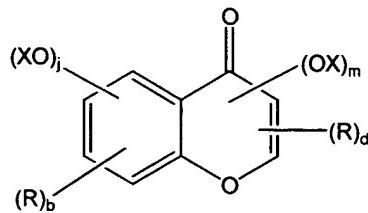
(Formula 19)



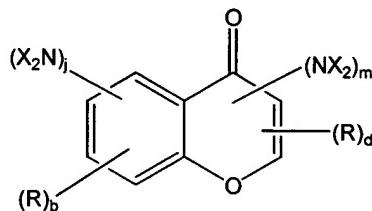
(Formula 20)



(Formula 21)



(Formula 22)

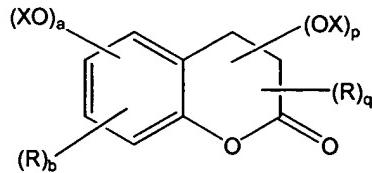


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of j and b is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, each of m and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 2, provided that 0 ≤ j+b ≤ 4, 0 ≤ m+d ≤ 2 and 1 ≤ j+m ≤ 5, and derivatives thereof.

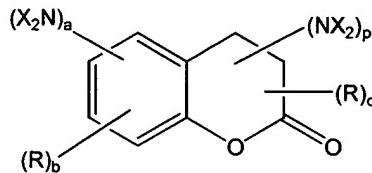
*C3
cont*

30. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a dihydrocoumarine derivative represented by Formulae 23 and 24, a chromanone derivative represented by Formulae 25 and 26, and an isochromanone derivative represented by Formulae 27 and 28:

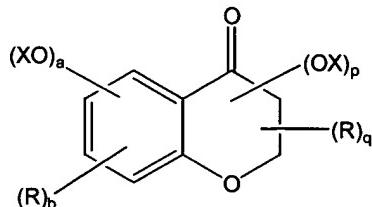
(Formula 23)



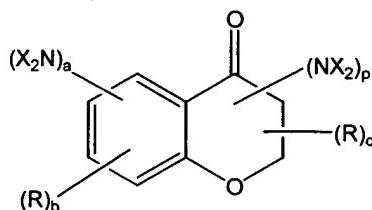
(Formula 24)



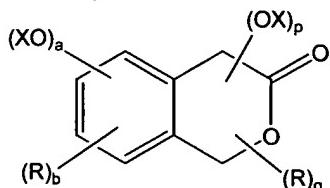
(Formula 25)



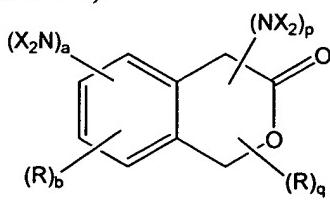
(Formula 26)



(Formula 27)



(Formula 28)

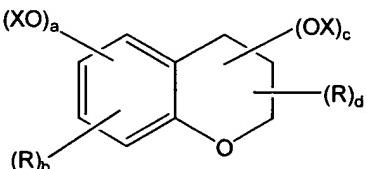


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by

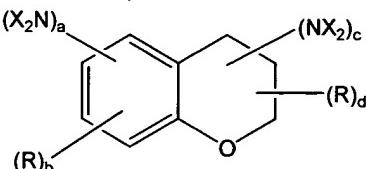
(acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyano group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, a is an integer of 1 to 3, b is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, and each of p and q is 0 or an integer of 1 to 2, provided that 1 ≤ a+b ≤ 4 and 0 ≤ p+q ≤ 2, and derivatives thereof.

31. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a chroman derivative represented by Formulae 29 and 30 and an isochroman derivative represented by Formulae 31 and 32:

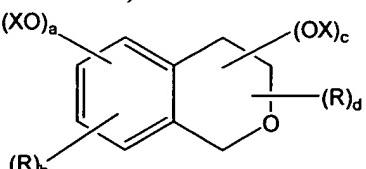
(Formula 29)



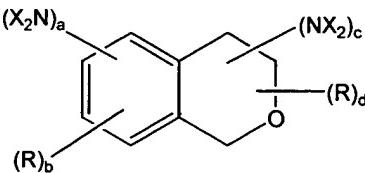
(Formula 30)



(Formula 31)



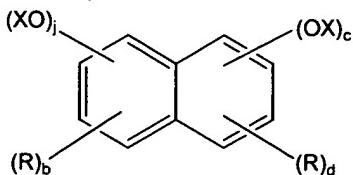
(Formula 32)



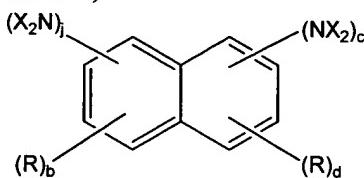
wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxyl group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyno group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, a is an integer of 1 to 3, b is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, each of c and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 1 ≤ a+b ≤ 4 and 0 ≤ c+d ≤ 3, and derivatives thereof.

32. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a naphthalene derivative represented by Formulae 33 and 34 and a bisnaphthyl derivative represented by Formulae 35 and 36:

(Formula 33)

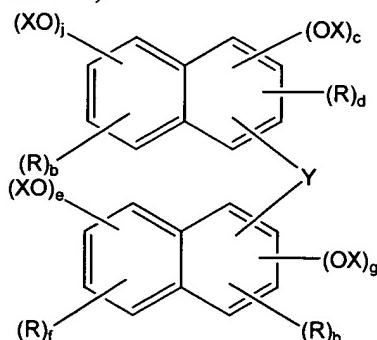


(Formula 34)

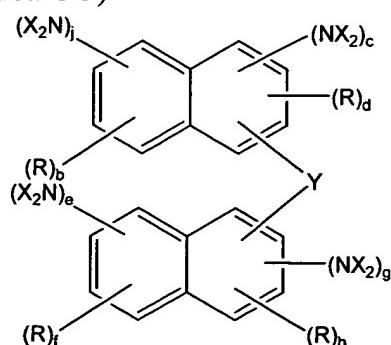


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxyl group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of j, b, c and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 0 ≤ j+b ≤ 4, 0 ≤ c+d ≤ 4 and 1 ≤ j+c ≤ 6,

(Formula 35)



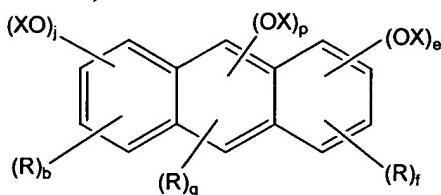
(Formula 36)



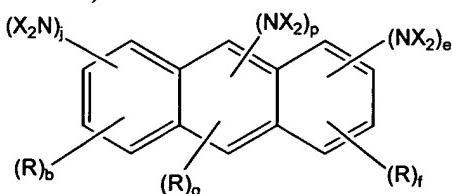
wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyno group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, Y represents a direct bond, a C₁-C₁₀ alkylene group, -(alkylene)-O-, -(alkylene)-S-, -O-, -S-, -SO₂-, -CO- or -COO-, each of j, b, c, d, e, f, g and h is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 0 ≤ j+b ≤ 4, 0 ≤ c+d ≤ 3, 0 ≤ e+f ≤ 4, 0 ≤ g+h ≤ 3 and 1 ≤ j+c+e+g ≤ 12, and derivatives thereof.

33. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of an anthracene derivative represented by Formulae 37 and 38:

(Formula 37)



(Formula 38)

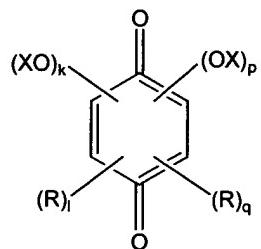


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group,

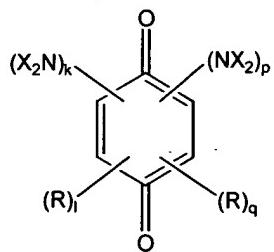
a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of j, b, e and f is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, each of p and q is 0 or an integer of 1 to 2, provided that 0 ≤ j+b ≤ 4, 0 ≤ p+q ≤ 2, 0 ≤ e+f ≤ 4 and 1 ≤ j+p+e ≤ 8.

34. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a benzoquinone derivative represented by Formulae 39 and 40:

(Formula 39)



(Formula 40)



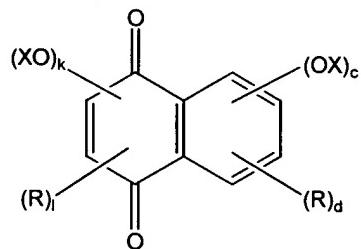
wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by

(acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of k, l, p and q is 0 or an integer of 1 to 2, provided that 0 ≤ k+l ≤ 2, 0 ≤ p+q ≤ 2 and 1 ≤ k+p ≤ 4.

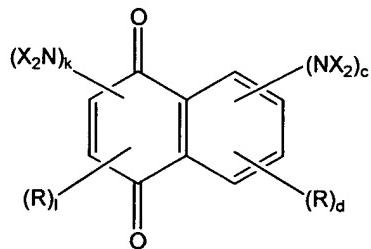
C₃
Cat

35. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a naphthoquinone derivative represented by Formulae 41 and 42:

(Formula 41)



(Formula 42)

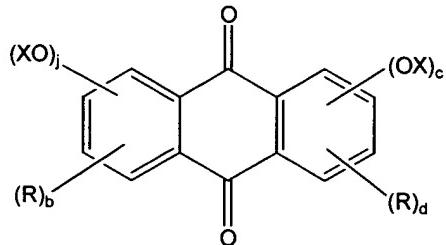


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-

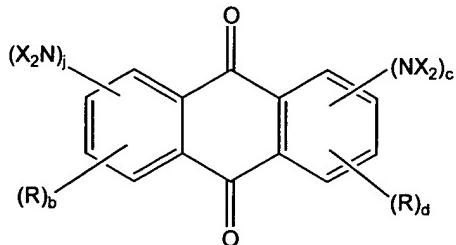
containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of k and l is 0 or an integer of 1 to 2, each of c and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 0 ≤ k+l ≤ 2, 0 ≤ c+d ≤ 4 and 1 ≤ k+c ≤ 5.

36. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of an anthraquinone derivative represented by Formulae 43 and 44:

(Formula 43)



(Formula 44)

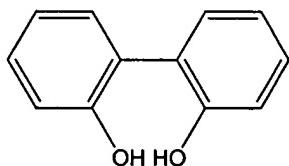


wherein each R is the same or different and represents a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a halogen group, a carboxyl group or its ester, a formyl group, an acyl group, a group represented by (acyl)-O-, an amino group, a mono- or dialkylamino group, an amide group or its substituted form, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, an alkylthio group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group, a nitro group, a cyano group or a

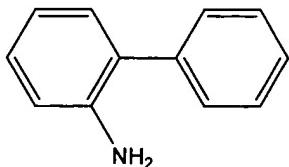
thiocyanato group, each X is the same or different and represents hydrogen, a C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, a hydroxyl group- or halogen group-carrying C₁-C₂₀ hydrocarbon group, an acyl group, a sulfonyl-containing group, a phosphoryl-containing group or an ether group-containing hydrocarbon group, each of j, b, c and d is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3, provided that 0 ≤ j+b ≤ 4, 0 ≤ c+d ≤ 4 and 1 ≤ j+c ≤ 6.

37. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a 2,2'-bisphenol represented by Formulae 45 and a 2-aminobiphenyl represented by Formula 46:

(Formula 45)



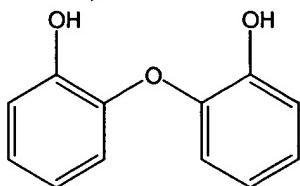
(Formula 46)



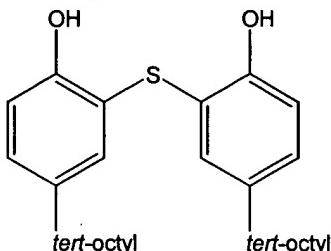
and derivatives thereof.

38. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a 2,2'-dihydroxydiphenylether represented by Formula 47, a 2,2'-thiobis(4-t-octylphenol) represented by Formula 48 and a 2,2'-methylenebis(6-t-butyl-p-cresol) represented by Formula 49:

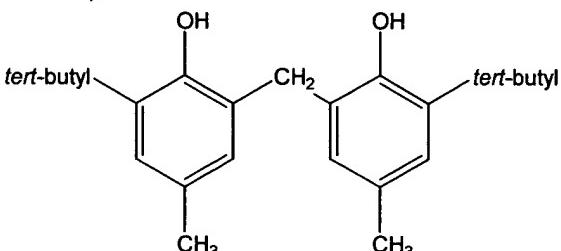
(Formula 47)



(Formula 48)



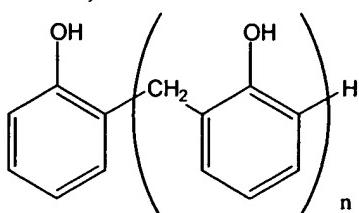
(Formula 49)



and derivatives thereof.

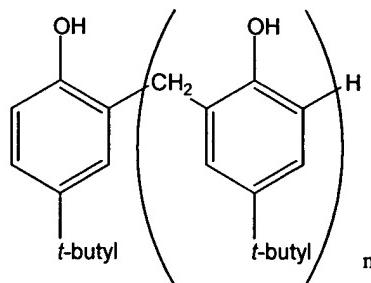
39. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a methylene-bridged linear phenol compound represented by Formula 50 (mixture of dimer to 100-mer) and a methylene-bridged linear p-t-butylphenol compound represented by Formula 51 (mixture of dimer to 100-mer):

(Formula 50)



wherein n is an integer of 1 to 99,

(Formula 51)

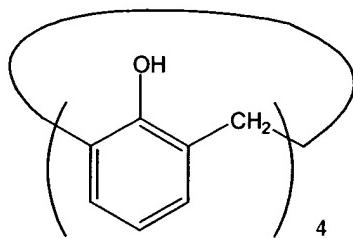


wherein n is an integer of 1 to 99, and derivatives thereof.

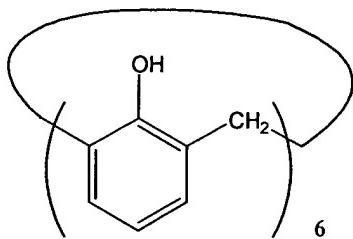
C3

40. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a Calix [4] arene represented by Formula 52, a Calix [6] arene represented by Formula 53, a Calix [8] arene represented by Formula 54, a p-t-butyl Calix [4] arene represented by Formula 55, a p-t-butyl Calix [6] arene represented by Formula 56 and a p-t-butyl Calix [8] arene represented by Formula 57:

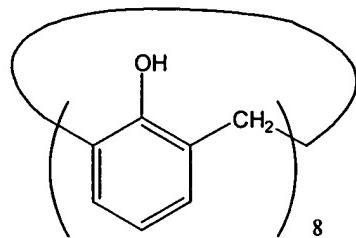
(Formula 52)



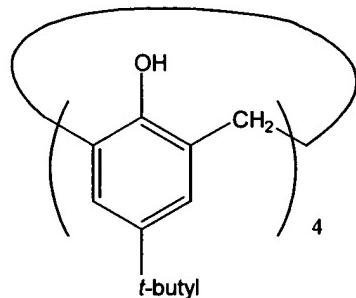
(Formula 53)



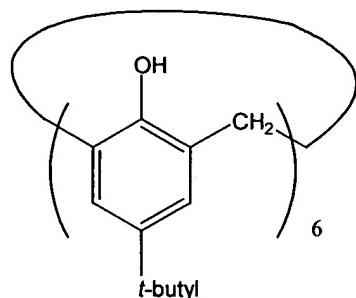
(Formula 54)



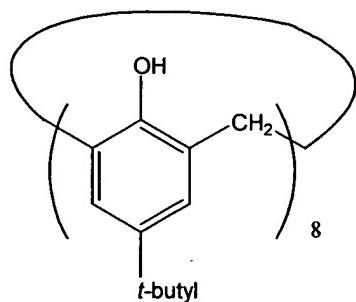
(Formula 55)



(Formula 56)



(Formula 57)

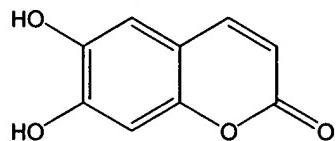


and derivatives thereof.

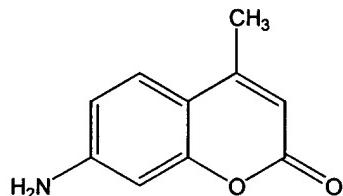
41. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of an esculetin represented by Formula

58 and a 7-amino-4-methylcoumarine represented by Formula 59:

(Formula 58)



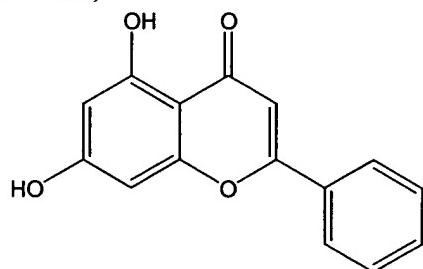
(Formula 59)



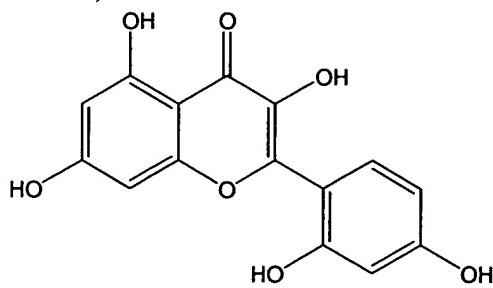
and derivatives thereof.

42. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a chrysin represented by Formula 60; a morin represented by Formula 61 and a 2-aminochromone represented by Formula 62:

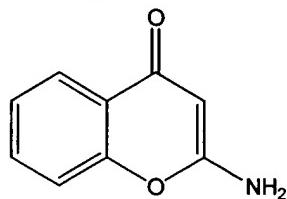
(Formula 60)



(Formula 61)



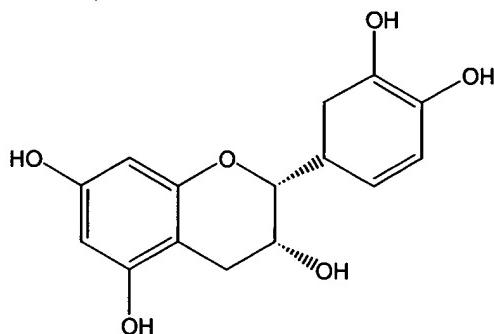
(Formula 62)



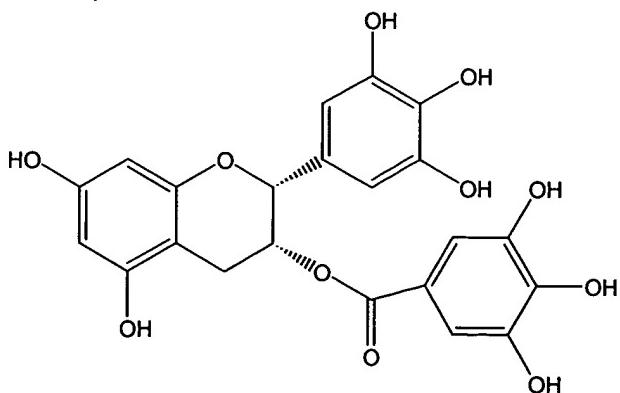
and derivatives thereof.

43. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of an epicatechin represented by Formula 63 and an epigallocatechin gallate represented by Formula 64:

(Formula 63)



(Formula 64)

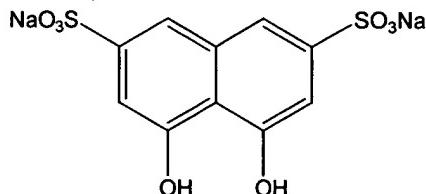


and derivatives thereof.

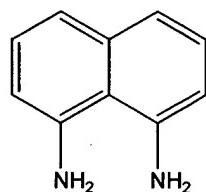
44. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein

a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a disodium 4,5-dihydroxynaphthalene-2,7-disulfonate represented by Formula 65, a 1,8-diaminonaphthalene represented by Formula 66, a naphthol AS represented by Formula 67, a 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol represented by Formula 68 and a 1,1'-binaphthyl-2,2'-diamine represented by Formula 69:

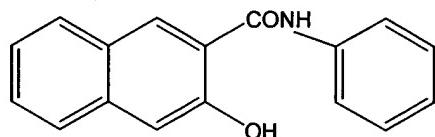
(Formula 65)



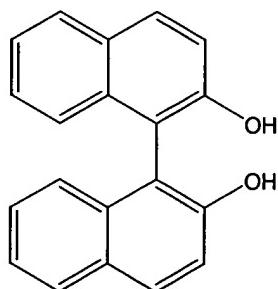
(Formula 66)



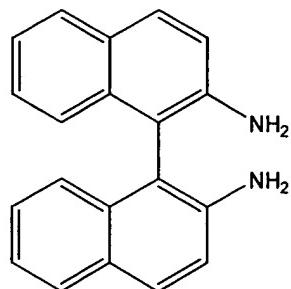
(Formula 67)



(Formula 68)



(Formula 69)

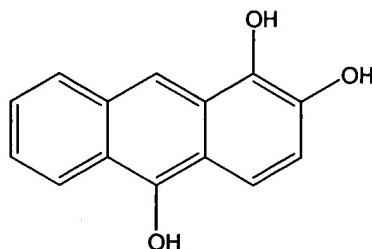


and derivatives thereof.

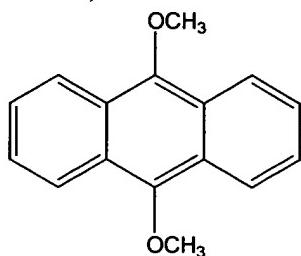
C3
Cont

45. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of an anthrarobin represented by Formula 70, a 9,10-dimethoxyanthracene represented by Formula 71 and a 2-aminoanthracene represented by Formula 72:

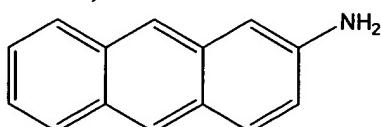
(Formula 70)



(Formula 71)



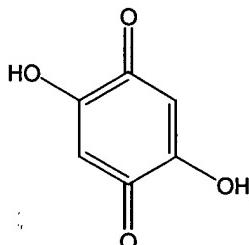
(Formula 72)



and derivatives thereof.

46. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a 2,5-dihydroxybenzoquinone represented by Formula 73:

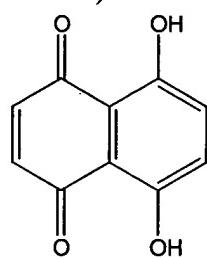
(Formula 73)



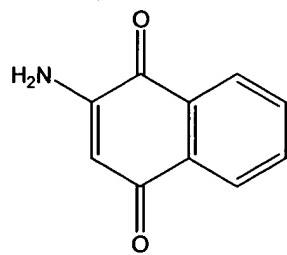
*C3
Cont* and derivatives thereof.

47. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a 5,8-dihydroxy-1,4-naphthoquinone represented by Formula 74 and a 2-aminonaphthoquinone represented by Formula 75:

(Formula 74)



(Formula 75)

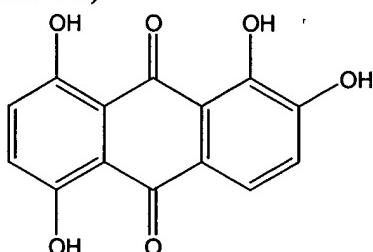


and derivatives thereof.

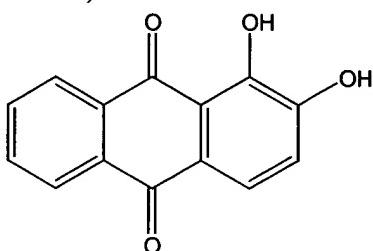
48. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst according to Claim 24 wherein

a compound containing a structure represented by said Formulae 3 and/or 4 is a compound selected from the group consisting of a quinalizarin represented by Formula 76, an alizarin represented by Formula 77, a quinizarin represented by Formula 78, an anthrarufin represented by Formula 79, an emodine represented by Formula 80, a 1,4-diaminoanthraquinone represented by Formula 81, a 1,8-diamino-4,5-dihydroxyanthraquinone represented by Formula 82 and an acid blue 25 represented by Formula 83:

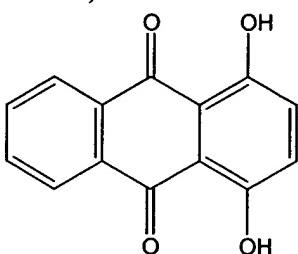
(Formula 76)



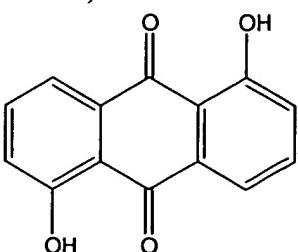
(Formula 77)



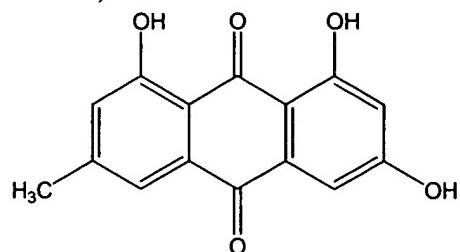
(Formula 78)



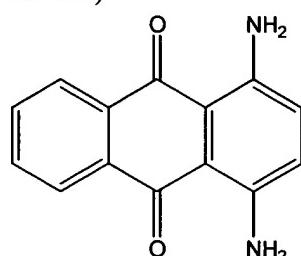
(Formula 79)



(Formula 80)

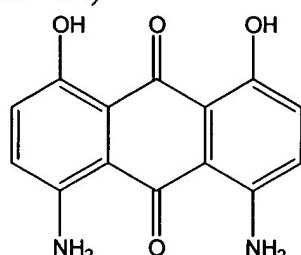


(Formula 81)

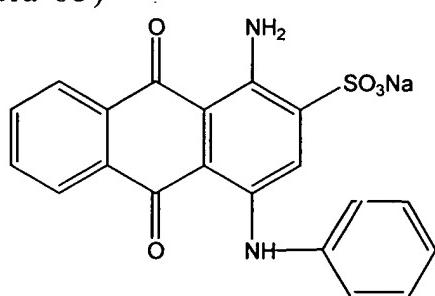


C3

(Formula 82)



(Formula 83)



and derivatives thereof.

49. (Amended) The polyester polymerization catalyst having a substantial catalytic activity and comprising:

at least one metal-containing component selected from the group consisting of metals and metal compounds, said metal-containing component alone having